

HB 5689-Updating Child Passenger Safety Seat Law

Provides clear guidance to parents and caregivers
and aligns with national safety guidelines

Motor vehicle collisions are the leading cause of death among children older than 4 years and the second leading cause of death among children 1 to 4 years old in the U.S. More than 100 Michigan children younger than 8 years old die each year in a crash. Each year more than 70,000 child passengers birth to 7 years old and another 70,000 child passengers 8 to 12 years old are treated in U.S. emergency departments after a crash.

We need to enact HB 5689 because Michigan's child passenger safety law should be updated to better align with national guidelines and to move "Toward Zero Deaths" for Michigan child passengers.

Current Michigan Statue	HB 5689
Infants should ride facing the rear of the vehicle until they are 1 year old .	Infants and toddlers should ride rear facing until they are at least age 2 or 30 pounds .
Young children should ride in car safety seats with a harness until at least age 4 .	Young children should ride in car safety seats with a harness until at least age 5 or 50 pounds .
School-aged children should ride in booster seats until a height of 4'9" or age 8 .	School-aged children should ride in booster seats until a height of 4'9" or age 10 .



Parents look to state laws to guide their selection of child passenger restraints.



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- Crash statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Michigan Department of Transportation.
- 2011 American Academy of Pediatrics Guidelines for Child Passenger Safety – Policy Statement, *Pediatrics* April 2011.
- Figure from the child safety campaign from National Highway Traffic Safety Administration available at www.safercar.gov